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Security Council

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Letter dated 4 December 2006 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), by which the Council established, as a subsidiary body of the Council, the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), and to the related resolutions 687 (1991) and 706 (1991). I should also like to refer to my letter of 19 April 2006 and to the letter dated 11 November 2006 from the Prime Minister of Iraq to you (S/2006/888, annex).

In the light of the above, the Council may wish to consider undertaking a review of the mandate set out in Security Council resolution 1284 (1999).

I also have the honour to refer to a letter dated 14 November 2006 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq requesting that $40 million dollars of the balance in the UNMOVIC account be transferred to the Permanent Mission of Iraq account to be used to purchase facilities near United Nations Headquarters and to renovate the current headquarters of the Mission and the residence of the Permanent Representative (see annex).

The current balance in the UNMOVIC account stands at about $105.7 million. Effecting the requested transfer would leave a residual balance of $65.7 million in the account. While this residual balance would be adequate at the present expenditure levels, it would be less adequate should expenditures return to the levels experienced in former years.

I should be grateful if you could share this information with the members of the Security Council so that they may consider the request of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Annex

Letter dated 14 November 2006 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

I have the honour to refer to our meeting of this past June, during which we addressed, among other things, the subject of Iraqi funds held in the escrow account for the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC). There is at present $113 million in the Commission's account, of which $25 million is expected to be spent in the course of the year to cover the Commission's activities, an expenditure which is of no practical benefit to either Iraq or the United Nations.

The Government of Iraq plans to purchase a new building close to United Nations Headquarters to serve as the headquarters of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations. It also plans to perform major renovations on the Mission's current building and the residence of the Permanent Representative, which has been neglected for over 10 years. I would like to remind you in this regard of the understanding you expressed this past June for our position, and of your positive stance towards using the Commission's account to settle Iraq's arrears in United Nations dues and peacekeeping contributions and transferring $200 million to the Development Fund for Iraq. I hereby request that you take steps for the transfer of $40 million from the UNMOVIC escrow account to the account of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations to cover the costs of purchasing the new building and performing extensive maintenance on the current Mission headquarters and the residence of the Permanent Representative.

(*Signed*) Hoshyar **Zebari**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

14 November 2006